

- (b) what are the prospects of its exports;
- (c) whether any MoU has been signed with foreign countries/ companies; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) Oilzapper is carrier based efficient crude oil and oily sludge degrading bacterial consortia. Oilzapper can be packed in poly bags and easily transported to the sites of refinery or accidental crude oil spill sites.

Indian Oil refineries are generating around 20,000 metric tonnes of oily sludge, per annum. To degrade 20,000 metric tonnes of oily sludge, 200 metric tonnes of Oilzapper is required. In addition, around 100 metric tonnes of Oilzapper will be required to clean-up contaminated sites due to oil spills. Hence, the total expected annual demand of Oilzapper is 300 metric tonnes for indigenous requirement.

At present, commercial production of Oilzapper has not started. The research laboratory is producing about 10 tonnes per annum for demonstration purpose.

(b) The export potential of Oilzapper is quite high. Malaysia, Singapore, China and Saudi Arabia have shown interest in the product.

(c) No MoU has been signed with foreign countries/companies.

(d) Not applicable.

Amount for Women's Bio-Technology Parks in Chennai

375. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3759, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd December, 2000 and state:

(a) how much amount has been allotted for bio-technology park for women operating in Chennai during 2000-2001; and

(b) whether this amount would be increased in the next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) The allocated amount of Rs. 250.00 lakhs was released during the year 2000-2001 for Biotechnology Park for Women in Chennai.

(b) No Sir, Government of India has released the total committed amount.